

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 232

To provide for a two-year Federal budget cycle, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 6, 1999

Mr. REGULA (for himself, Mr. LUTHER, and Mr. BILBRAY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Budget, and in addition to the Committee on Rules, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To provide for a two-year Federal budget cycle, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Biennial Budget Act
5 of 1999”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds and declares
8 that the present annual Federal budgeting process—

1 (1) allows insufficient time for the fulfillment
2 by the Congress of its legislative and oversight re-
3 sponsibilities;

4 (2) allows insufficient time for the review and
5 consideration by the Congress of authorizing legisla-
6 tion, budget resolutions, and appropriation bills and
7 resolutions and other spending measures;

8 (3) allows insufficient time for the evaluation of
9 costly and complicated Federal programs, and there-
10 by contributes to the unrestrained growth of the
11 Federal budget; and

12 (4) allows insufficient time for agencies and
13 State and local governments to plan for the imple-
14 mentation of programs.

15 (b) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this Act—

16 (1) to establish a process through which the
17 Federal budget will be adopted for a two-year
18 period;

19 (2) to improve congressional control over the
20 Federal budget process;

21 (3) to streamline the requirements of the budg-
22 et process in order to promote better accountability
23 to the public;

9 Section 300 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974
10 (2 U.S.C. 631) is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 300. The timetable with respect to the Congressional budget process for any Congress (beginning with the One Hundred Seventh Congress) is as follows:

“On or before:	Action to be completed:
First Monday after January 3.	President submits budget recommendations.
February 15	Congressional Budget Office submits report to Budget Committees.
February 25	Committees submit views and estimates to Budget Committees.
March 31	Senate Budget Committee reports concurrent resolution on the biennial budget.
April 15	Congress completes action on concurrent resolution on the biennial budget.
May 15	Biennial appropriation bills may be considered in the House.
June 10	House Appropriations Committee reports last biennial appropriation bill.
September 30	Congress completes action on reconciliation legislation.
September 30	Congress completes action on biennial appropriation bills.
October 1	Biennium begins.

“Second Session

“On or before:	Action to be completed:
May 15	Congressional Budget Office submits report to Budget Committees.
The last day of the session.	Congress completes action on bills and resolutions authorizing a new budget authority for the succeeding biennium.”.

1 **SEC. 4. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET**
2 **AND IMPOUNDMENT CONTROL ACT OF 1974.**

3 (a) DECLARATION OF PURPOSE.—Section 2(2) of the
4 Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of
5 1974 (2 U.S.C. 621(2)) is amended by striking “each
6 year” and inserting “biennially”.

7 (b) DEFINITIONS.—

8 (1) Section 3(4) of such Act (2 U.S.C. 622(4))
9 is amended by striking “fiscal year” each place it
10 appears and inserting “biennium”.

11 (2) Section 3 of such Act (2 U.S.C. 622) is fur-
12 ther amended by adding at the end the following
13 new paragraph:

14 “(11) The term ‘biennium’ means the period of
15 2 consecutive fiscal years beginning on October 1 of
16 any odd-numbered year.”.

17 (c) DUTIES OF CBO.—

18 (1) Section 202(e)(1) of the Congressional
19 Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 602(e)(1)) is
20 amended—

1 (A) by striking “February 15 of each
2 year” and inserting “February 15 of each odd-
3 numbered calendar year”;

4 (B) by striking “the fiscal year commence-
5 ing” and inserting “each fiscal year in the bien-
6 nium commencing”.

7 (C) by striking “such fiscal year” the first
8 place it appears and inserting “such biennium”;
9 and

10 (D) by striking “such fiscal year” the sec-
11 ond place it appears and inserting “each fiscal
12 year in such biennium”.

13 (2) Section 202(e) of such Act (2 U.S.C.
14 602(e)) is further amended—

15 (A) in paragraph (2) by striking “The Di-
16 rector shall from time to time” and inserting
17 “On May 15 of each even numbered year and
18 at such other times as he or she deems appro-
19 priate, the Director shall”.

20 (B) in paragraph (3)—

21 (i) by striking “January 15” and in-
22 serting “February 15”,

23 (ii) by striking “each year” and in-
24 serting “each even-numbered calendar
25 year”,

1 (iii) by striking “the fiscal year end-
 2 ing September 30 of that calendar year” in
 3 clause (A) and inserting “either fiscal year
 4 in the biennium beginning October 1 of the
 5 preceding calendar year”,

6 (iv) by striking “the fiscal year ending
 7 September 30 of that calendar year” in
 8 clause (B) and inserting “either fiscal year
 9 of such biennium”, and

10 (v) by striking “fiscal year beginning
 11 October 1 of that calendar year” and in-
 12 serting “succeeding biennium”.

13 (d) BIENNIAL CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE
 14 BUDGET.—

15 (1) Section 301(a) of such Act (2 U.S.C.
 16 632(a)) is amended—

17 (A) by striking “April 15 of each year”
 18 and inserting “April 15 of each odd-numbered
 19 year”;

20 (B) by striking “the fiscal year beginning
 21 on October 1 of such year” the first place it ap-
 22 pears and inserting “biennium beginning on Oc-
 23 tober 1 of such year”;

24 (C) by striking “the fiscal year beginning
 25 on October 1 of such year” the second place it

1 appears and inserting “each fiscal year in such
2 period; and

3 (D) by striking “each of the 4 ensuing fis-
4 cal years” and inserting “each fiscal year in the
5 succeeding bienniums”.

6 (2) Section 301(b) of such Act (2 U.S.C.
7 632(b)) is amended—

8 (A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1)
9 by inserting “for a biennium” after “concurrent
10 resolution on the budget”; and

11 (B) in paragraph (3) by striking “for such
12 fiscal year” and inserting “for either fiscal year
13 in such biennium”.

14 (3) Section 301(d) of such Act (2 U.S.C.
15 632(d)) is amended by striking “February 25 of
16 each year” and inserting “February 25 of each odd-
17 numbered year”.

18 (4) Section 301(e)(1) of such Act (2 U.S.C.
19 632(e)(1)) is amended—

20 (A) in the first sentence by striking “fiscal
21 year” and inserting “biennium”;

22 (B) by inserting between the second and
23 third sentences the following new sentence: “On
24 or before March 31 of each odd-numbered year
25 the Committee on the Budget of each House

1 shall report to its House the concurrent resolu-
2 tion on the budget referred to in subsection (a)
3 for the biennium beginning on October 1 of
4 that year.”.

5 (5) Section 301(f) of such Act (2 U.S.C.
6 632(f)) is amended by striking “fiscal year” each
7 place it appears and inserting “biennium”.

8 (6) The section heading of section 301 of such
9 Act is amended by striking “**ANNUAL**” and insert-
10 ing “**BIENNIAL**”.

11 (7) The table of contents set forth in section
12 1(b) of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment
13 Control Act of 1974 is amended by striking “An-
14 nual” in the item relating to section 301 and insert-
15 ing “Biennial”.

16 (e) COMMITTEE ALLOCATIONS.—

17 (1) Section 302(a)(1) of such Act (2 U.S.C.
18 633(a)(1)) is amended—

19 (A) by inserting “for a biennium” after
20 “budget” the first place it appears; and

21 (B) by striking “for the first fiscal year of
22 the resolution, for at least each of the 4 ensuing
23 fiscal years, and a total for that period of fiscal
24 years” and inserting “for each of the 2

1 bienniums covered by the resolution and a total
2 for that period of 2 bienniums”; and

3 (C) by striking “fiscal year” the last place
4 it appears and inserting “first biennium”.

5 (2) Section 302(c) of such Act (2 U.S.C.
6 633(c)) is amended—

7 (A) by striking “for a fiscal year” and in-
8 serting “for either fiscal year in a biennium”;
9 and

10 (B) by striking “for such fiscal year” and
11 inserting “for such biennium”.

12 (3) Section 302(f)(1) of such Act (2 U.S.C.
13 633(f)(1)) is amended—

14 (A) by striking “for a fiscal year” and in-
15 serting “for a biennium”;

16 (B) by striking “any fiscal year” in the
17 matter preceding subparagraph (A) and insert-
18 ing “a fiscal year in such biennium”; and

19 (C) by striking “first fiscal year or the
20 total of fiscal years” and inserting “first bien-
21 nium or the total of the first 2 bienniums”.

22 (4) Section 302(f)(2) of such Act is amended by
23 striking “first fiscal year or the total of fiscal years”
24 and inserting “first biennium or the total of the first
25 2 bienniums”.

1 (f) SECTION 303 POINT OF ORDER.—

2 (1) Section 303(a) of such Act (2 U.S.C.
3 634(a)) is amended by striking “fiscal year” each
4 place it appears and inserting “biennium”.

5 (2) Section 303(b) of such Act (2 U.S.C.
6 634(b)) is amended—

7 (A) by striking “fiscal year” each place it
8 appears and inserting “biennium”;

9 (B) in paragraph (b)(1)(A) by striking
10 “first or second fiscal year after the budget
11 year” and inserting “the biennium after the
12 first biennium”; and

13 (C) in paragraph (b)(2) by inserting “of
14 any odd-numbered calendar year” after “May
15 15”.

16 (3) Section 303(c) of such Act is amended—

17 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “a fiscal
18 year” and inserting “a biennium”, by striking
19 “that year” the first place it appears and in-
20 serting “that biennium”, and by striking “that
21 year or any subsequent year” and inserting
22 “that biennium”; and

23 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “for the
24 first or second fiscal year after the year” and

1 inserting “for the biennium after the bien-
2 nium”.

3 (g) PERMISSIBLE REVISIONS OF CONCURRENT RES-
4 OLUTIONS ON THE BUDGET.—Section 304 of such Act (2
5 U.S.C. 635) is amended—

6 (1) by striking “fiscal year” the first two places
7 it appears and inserting “biennium”;

8 (2) by striking “for such fiscal year”; and

9 (3) by inserting before the period “for such bi-
10 ennium”.

11 (h) PROCEDURES FOR CONSIDERATION OF BUDGET
12 RESOLUTIONS.—Section 305(b)(3) of such Act (2 U.S.C.
13 636(b)(3)) is amended—

14 (1) striking “the concurrent” and inserting “a
15 concurrent”; and

16 (2) by striking “fiscal year” and inserting “bi-
17 ennium”.

18 (i) REPORT AND SUMMARIES OF CONGRESSIONAL
19 BUDGET ACTIONS.—

20 (1)(A) Section 308(a)(1) of the Congressional
21 Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 639(a)(1)) is
22 amended—

23 (i) in the matter preceding subparagraph

24 (A) by striking “fiscal year (or fiscal years)”

25 and inserting “biennium”,

1 (ii) in subparagraph (A) by striking “fiscal
2 year (or fiscal years)” and inserting “bien-
3 nium”, and

4 (iii) in subparagraph (B) by striking “such
5 fiscal year (or fiscal years)” and inserting
6 “such biennium”.

7 (B) Section 308(a)(2) of such Act is amended
8 by striking “fiscal year (or fiscal years)” and insert-
9 ing “biennium”.

10 (2) Section 308(b)(1) of such Act (2 U.S.C.
11 639(b)(1)) is amended—

12 (A) by striking “fiscal year” the first place
13 it appears and inserting “biennium”;

14 (B) by inserting “for such biennium” after
15 “concurrent resolution on the budget”; and

16 (C) by striking “the fiscal year preceding
17 the first fiscal year” and inserting “each fiscal
18 year in the biennium preceding such biennium”.

19 (3) Section 308(c) of such Act (2 U.S.C.
20 639(c)) is amended—

21 (A) by striking “Five” in the subsection
22 heading and inserting “Four”;

23 (B) by striking “fiscal year” each place it
24 appears in the matter preceding paragraph (1)
25 and inserting “biennium”; and

1 (C) by striking “5 fiscal years” and insert-
2 ing “4 fiscal years”.

3 (j) COMPLETION OF ACTION ON REGULAR APPRO-
4 PRIATION BILLS.—Section 309 of such Act (2 U.S.C.
5 640) is amended—

6 (1) by inserting “of any odd-numbered calendar
7 year” after “July”;

8 (2) by striking “annual” and inserting “regu-
9 lar”; and

10 (3) by striking “fiscal year” and inserting “bi-
11 ennium”.

12 (k) RECONCILIATION PROCESS.—

13 (1) Section 310(a) of such Act (2 U.S.C.
14 641(a)) is amended—

15 (A) by striking “any fiscal year” in the
16 matter preceding paragraph (1) and inserting
17 “any biennium”;

18 (B) in paragraph (1) by striking “such fis-
19 cal year” each place it appears and inserting
20 “each fiscal year in such biennium”; and

21 (C) in paragraph (2) by inserting “for each
22 fiscal year in such biennium” after “revenues”.

23 (2) Section 310(e) of such Act (2 U.S.C.
24 641(e)) is amended—

1 (A) by striking “20 hours” in paragraph
2 (2) and inserting “100 hours”; and

3 (B) by adding at the end the following new
4 paragraph:

5 “(3) It shall not be in order in the Senate or
6 the House of Representatives to consider any rec-
7 onciliation bill or resolution or any amendment
8 thereto or any conference report thereon which
9 changes any provision of law other than provisions
10 of law which—

11 “(A) provide new budget authority or
12 spending authority described in section
13 401(c)(2);

14 “(B) relate to revenues; or

15 “(C) specify the amount of the statutory
16 limit on the public debt.”.

17 (3) Section 310(f) of such Act (2 U.S.C.
18 641(f)) is amended—

19 (A) by inserting “of any odd-numbered cal-
20 endar year” after “July”,

21 (B) by striking “fiscal year beginning on
22 October 1 of the calendar year to which the ad-
23 journment resolution pertains” and inserting
24 “biennium beginning on October 1 of such cal-
25 endar year”, and

1 (C) by striking “for such fiscal year” and
2 inserting “for such biennium”.

3 (l) SECTION 311 POINT OF ORDER.—

4 (1) Section 311(a) of such Act (2 U.S.C.
5 642(a)) is amended—

6 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “for a
7 fiscal year” and inserting “for a biennium”, by
8 striking “first fiscal year” each place it appears
9 and inserting “first biennium”, and by striking
10 “ensuing fiscal years” and inserting “second bi-
11 ennium”;

12 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “first fis-
13 cal year” each place it appears and inserting
14 “first biennium”, and by striking “ensuing fis-
15 cal years” and inserting “second biennium”;

16 (C) in paragraph (3), by striking “first fis-
17 cal year or for the total of that fiscal year and
18 the ensuing fiscal years” and inserting “first bi-
19 ennium or for the total of that biennium and
20 the next biennium”.

21 (2) Section 311(b) of such Act (2 U.S.C.
22 642(b)) is amended by striking “fiscal year or
23 years” both places it appears and inserting “bien-
24 nium”.

1 (3) Section 311(c) of such Act (2 U.S.C.
2 642(c)) is amended by striking “fiscal year” both
3 places it appears and inserting “biennium”.

4 (m) DETERMINATIONS AND POINTS OF ORDER.—
5 Section 312 of such Act (2 U.S.C. 643) is amended—

6 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “for a fiscal
7 year”; and

8 (2) in subsection (c), by striking “for a fiscal
9 year” and inserting “for a biennium”.

10 (n) EXTRANEEOUS MATTER IN RECONCILIATION LEG-
11 ISLATION.—Section 313 of such Act (2 U.S.C. 644) is
12 amended by striking “fiscal year” each place it appears
13 and inserting “biennium” and by striking “fiscal years”
14 each place it appears and inserting “bienniums”.

15 (o) BUDGET-RELATED LEGISLATION NOT SUBJECT
16 TO APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 401 of such Act (2 U.S.C.
17 651 is amended by striking “fiscal year” each place it ap-
18 pears and inserting “biennium”.

19 (p) ANALYSIS BY CBO.—Section 402(1) of the Con-
20 gressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 652(1)) is
21 amended—

22 (1) by striking “the fiscal year” and inserting
23 “each fiscal year in the biennium”; and

1 (2) by striking “4 fiscal years following such
2 year” in paragraph (1) and inserting “each fiscal
3 year in the succeeding biennium”.

4 **SEC. 5. AMENDMENTS TO TITLE 31, UNITED STATES CODE.**

5 (a) DEFINITION.—Section 1101 of title 31, United
6 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the follow-
7 ing new paragraph:

8 “(3) ‘biennium’ has the meaning given to such
9 term in paragraph (11) of section 3 of the Congres-
10 sional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of
11 1974 (2 U.S.C. 622(11))”.

12 (b) BUDGET CONTENTS AND SUBMISSION TO THE
13 CONGRESS.—

14 (1) So much of section 1105(a) of title 31,
15 United States Code, as precedes paragraph (1) is
16 amended to read as follows:

17 “(a) On or before the first Monday after January 3
18 of each odd-numbered year, beginning with the One Hun-
19 dred Sixth Congress, the President shall transmit to the
20 Congress, the budget for the biennium beginning on Octo-
21 ber 1 of such calendar year. The budget transmitted under
22 this subsection shall include a budget message and sum-
23 mary and supporting information. The President shall in-
24 clude in each budget the following:”.

1 (2) Section 1105(a)(5) of title 31, United
2 States Code, is amended by striking “the fiscal year
3 for which the budget is submitted and the 4 fiscal
4 years after that year” and inserting “each fiscal
5 year in the biennium for which the budget is submit-
6 ted and in the succeeding biennium”.

7 (3) Section 1105(a)(6) of title 31, United
8 States Code, is amended by striking “the fiscal year
9 for which the budget is submitted and the 4 fiscal
10 years after that year” and inserting “each fiscal
11 year in the biennium for which the budget is submit-
12 ted and in the succeeding biennium”.

13 (4) Section 1105(a)(9)(C) of title 31, United
14 States Code, is amended by striking “the fiscal
15 year” and inserting “each fiscal year in the bien-
16 nium”.

17 (5) Section 1105(a)(12) of title 31, United
18 States Code, is amended—

19 (A) by striking “the fiscal year” in sub-
20 paragraph (A) and inserting “each fiscal year
21 in the biennium”; and

22 (B) by striking “4 fiscal years after that
23 year” in subparagraph (B) and inserting “2 fis-
24 cal years immediately following the second fiscal
25 year in such biennium”.

1 (6) Section 1105(a)(13) of title 31, United
2 States Code, is amended by striking “the fiscal
3 year” and inserting “each fiscal year in the bien-
4 nium”.

5 (7) Section 1105(a)(14) of title 31, United
6 States Code, is amended by striking “that year” and
7 inserting “each fiscal year in the biennium for which
8 the budget is submitted”.

9 (8) Section 1105(a)(16) of title 31, United
10 States Code, is amended by striking “the fiscal
11 year” and inserting “each fiscal year in the bien-
12 nium”.

13 (9) Section 1105(a)(17) of title 31, United
14 States Code, is amended—

15 (A) by striking “the fiscal year following
16 the fiscal year” and inserting “each fiscal year
17 in the biennium following the biennium”;

18 (B) by striking “that following fiscal year”
19 and inserting “each such fiscal year”; and

20 (C) by striking “fiscal year before the fis-
21 cal year” and inserting “biennium before the bi-
22 ennium”.

23 (10) Section 1105(a)(18) of title 31, United
24 States Code, is amended—

1 (A) by striking “the prior fiscal year” and
 2 inserting “each of the 2 most recently com-
 3 pleted fiscal years”;

4 (B) by striking “for that year” and insert-
 5 ing “with respect to that fiscal year”; and

6 (C) by striking “in that year” and insert-
 7 ing “in that fiscal year”.

8 (11) Section 1105(a)(19) of title 31, United
 9 States Code, is amended—

10 (A) by striking “the prior fiscal year” and
 11 inserting “each of the 2 most recently com-
 12 pleted fiscal years”;

13 (B) by striking “for that year” and insert-
 14 ing “with respect to that fiscal year”; and

15 (C) by striking “in that year” each place
 16 it appears and inserting “in that fiscal year”.

17 (c) ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES OF LEGISLATIVE
 18 AND JUDICIAL BRANCHES.—Section 1105(b) of title 31,
 19 United States Code, is amended by striking “each year”
 20 and inserting “each even-numbered year”.

21 (d) RECOMMENDATIONS TO MEET ESTIMATED DE-
 22 FICIENCIES.—Section 1105(c) of title 31, United States
 23 Code, is amended—

24 (1) by striking “fiscal year for” each place it
 25 appears and inserting “biennium for”;

1 (2) by inserting “or current biennium, as the
2 case may be,” after “current fiscal year”; and

3 (3) by striking “that year” and inserting “that
4 period”.

5 (e) STATEMENT WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN
6 CHANGES.—Section 1105(d) of title 31, United States
7 Code, is amended by striking “fiscal year” and inserting
8 “biennium”.

9 (f) CAPITAL INVESTMENT ANALYSIS.—Section
10 1105(e) of title 31, United States Code, is amended by
11 striking “ensuing fiscal year” and inserting “biennium to
12 which such budget relates”.

13 (g) SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET ESTIMATES AND
14 CHANGES.—

15 (1) Section 1106(a) of title 31, United States
16 Code, is amended—

17 (A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1)
18 by striking “fiscal year” and inserting “bien-
19 nium”;

20 (B) in paragraph (1) by striking “that fis-
21 cal year” and inserting “each fiscal year in
22 such biennium”;

23 (C) in paragraph (2) by striking “4 fiscal
24 years following the fiscal year” and inserting “2
25 fiscal years following the biennium”;

1 (D) by striking “future fiscal years” in
 2 paragraph (3) and inserting “the 2 fiscal years
 3 following the biennium for which the budget is
 4 submitted”; and

5 (E) by striking “fiscal year” in paragraph
 6 (3) and inserting “biennium”.

7 (2) Section 1106(b) of title 31, United States
 8 Code, is amended by striking “the fiscal year” and
 9 inserting “each fiscal year in the biennium”.

10 (h) CURRENT PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES ESTI-
 11 MATES.—

12 (1) Section 1109(a) of title 31, United States
 13 Code, is amended—

14 (A) by striking “On or before the first
 15 Monday after January 3 of each year (on or be-
 16 fore February 5 in 1994)” and inserting “At
 17 the same time the budget required by section
 18 1105 is submitted for a biennium”; and

19 (B) by striking “the following fiscal year”
 20 and inserting “each fiscal year of such period”.

21 (2) Section 1109(b) of title 31, United States
 22 Code, is amended by striking “March 1 of each
 23 year” and inserting “February 25 of each odd-num-
 24 bered year”.

1 (i) YEAR-AHEAD REQUESTS FOR AUTHORIZING LEG-
 2 ISLATION.—Section 1110 of title 31, United States Code,
 3 is amended—

4 (1) by striking “fiscal year” and inserting “bi-
 5 ennium (beginning on or after October 1, 2001)”,
 6 and

7 (2) by striking “year before the year in which
 8 the fiscal year begins” and inserting “second cal-
 9 endar year preceding the calendar year in which the
 10 biennium begins”.

11 (j) BUDGET INFORMATION ON CONSULTING SERV-
 12 ICES.—Section 1114 of title 31, United States Code, is
 13 amended—

14 (1) by striking “The” each place it appears and
 15 inserting “For each biennium beginning with the bi-
 16 ennium beginning on October 1, 2001, the”; and

17 (2) by striking “each year” each place it ap-
 18 pears.

19 **SEC. 6. TITLE AND STYLE OF APPROPRIATIONS ACTS.**

20 Section 105 of title 1, United States Code, is amend-
 21 ed to read as follows:

22 **“§ 105. Title and style of appropriation Acts**

23 “(a) The style and title of all Acts making appropria-
 24 tions for the support of the Government shall be as fol-
 25 lows: ‘An Act making appropriations (here insert the ob-

ject) for the biennium ending September 30 (here insert the odd-numbered calendar year).’.

“(b) All Acts making regular appropriations for the support of the Government shall be enacted for a biennium and shall specify the amount of appropriations provided for each fiscal year in such period.

“(c) For purposes of this section, the term ‘biennium’ has the same meaning as in section 3(11) of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 622(11)).”.

**SEC. 7. ASSISTANCE BY FEDERAL AGENCIES TO STANDING
COMMITTEES OF THE SENATE AND THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.**

(a) INFORMATION REGARDING AGENCY APPROPRIATIONS REQUESTS.—To assist each standing committee of the Senate and the House of Representatives in carrying out its responsibilities, the head of each Federal agency which administers the laws or parts of laws under the jurisdiction of such committee shall provide to such committee such studies, information, analyses, reports, and assistance as may be requested by the chairman and ranking minority member of the committee.

(b) INFORMATION REGARDING AGENCY PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION.—

1 (1) FURNISHING INFORMATION.—To assist
2 each standing committee of the Senate and the
3 House of Representatives in carrying out its respon-
4 sibilities, the head of any agency shall furnish with-
5 out charge to such committee computer tapes or
6 disks, together with explanatory documentation, con-
7 taining information received, compiled, or main-
8 tained by the agency as part of the operation or ad-
9 ministration of a program, or specifically compiled
10 pursuant to a request in support of a review of a
11 program, as may be requested by the chairman and
12 ranking minority member of such committee.

13 (2) MINIMIZING REQUESTS.—The Committee
14 on House Oversight of the House of Representatives
15 and the Committee on Rules and Administration of
16 the Senate shall prescribe rules and regulations for
17 their respective Houses which will minimize duplica-
18 tion of requests under paragraph (1) of this sub-
19 section.

20 (c) SUMMARIES BY COMPTROLLER GENERAL.—With-
21 in thirty days after the receipt of a request from a chair-
22 man and ranking minority member of a standing commit-
23 tee having jurisdiction over a program being reviewed and
24 studied by such committee under this section, the Comp-
25 troller General of the United States shall furnish to such

1 committee summaries of any audits or reviews of such pro-
2 gram which the Comptroller General has completed during
3 the preceding six years.

4 (d) CONGRESSIONAL ASSISTANCE.—Consistent with
5 their duties and functions under law, the Comptroller Gen-
6 eral of the United States, the Director of the Congres-
7 sional Budget Office, the Director of the Office of Tech-
8 nology Assessment, and the Director of the Congressional
9 Research Service shall furnish to each standing committee
10 of the Senate or the House of Representatives such infor-
11 mation, studies, analyses, and reports as the chairman and
12 ranking minority member may request to assist the com-
13 mittee in conducting reviews and studies of programs
14 under this section.

15 (e) SECRET AND CLASSIFIED INFORMATION PRO-
16 TECTED.—This section does not require the public disclo-
17 sure of matters that are specifically authorized under cri-
18 teria established by an Executive order to be kept secret
19 in the interest of national defense or foreign policy and
20 are in fact properly classified pursuant to such Executive
21 order, or which are otherwise specifically protected by law.
22 This section does not require any committee of the Senate
23 to disclose publicly information the disclosure of which is
24 governed by any rule of the Senate.

1 **SEC. 8. AMENDMENTS TO RULES OF HOUSE OF REP-**
2 **RESENTATIVES.**

3 (a) Clause 4(a)(1)(A) of rule X of the Rules of the
4 House of Representatives is amended by inserting “odd-
5 numbered” after “each”.

6 (b) Clause 4(a)(2) of rule X of the Rules of the House
7 of Representatives is amended by striking “the fiscal year
8 involved” and inserting “the biennium involved”.

9 (c) Clause 4(f) of rule X of the Rules of the House
10 of Representatives is amended by striking “annually” each
11 place it appears and inserting “biennially”.

12 (d) Clause 4(g) of rule X of the Rules of the House
13 of Representatives is amended—

14 (1) by inserting “during each odd-numbered
15 year” after “submits his budget”;

16 (2) by striking “fiscal year” the first place it
17 appears and inserting “biennium”; and

18 (3) by striking “that fiscal year” and inserting
19 “each fiscal year in such ensuing biennium”.

20 (e) Clause 4(h) of rule X of the Rules of the House
21 of Representatives is amended by striking “fiscal year”
22 and inserting “biennium”.

23 (f) Clause 4(a) of rule XI of the Rules of the House
24 of Representatives is amended by striking “fiscal year if
25 reported after September 15 preceding the beginning of

1 such fiscal year” and inserting “biennium if reported after
2 August 1 of the year in which such biennium begins”.

3 **SEC. 9. EFFECTIVE DATE; APPLICATION.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection
5 (b), this Act and the amendments made by this Act shall
6 become effective January 1, 2001, and shall apply to
7 bienniums beginning after September 30, 2001.

8 (b) FISCAL YEAR 2001.—Notwithstanding subsection
9 (a), the provisions of—

10 (1) the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, and

11 (2) title 31, United States Code,

12 (as such provisions were in effect on the day before the
13 effective date of this Act) shall apply to the fiscal year
14 beginning on October 1, 2000.

15 (c) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section, the
16 term “biennium” shall have the meaning given to such
17 term in section 3(11) of the Congressional Budget and
18 Impoundment Control Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 622(11)),
19 as added by section 4(b)(2) of this Act.

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